

What is claimed is:

1. A system employed by a first application for encoding URL link data for use in detecting unauthorized URL modification, comprising:

an input processor for receiving an encryption key;

a URL processor for processing a URL link to a second application using said received encryption key by identifying URL type and adaptively encrypting a URL link address portion based on said identified type to produce a processed URL; and

a communication processor for including said processed URL in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative data including said processed URL to a requesting application.

2. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said encryption key is received from a managing application responsible for providing said encryption key to a plurality of concurrently operating applications.

3. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said communication processor communicates said URL link address portion to a managing application for encryption.

4. A system according to claim 1, wherein

said URL processor of said first application adaptively processes a URL link to a second application differently to a link to a web page provided by said first application.

5. A system according to claim 4, wherein

said URL link to a second application includes an encrypted address portion and said link to said web page provided by said first application includes a non-encrypted address portion.

6. A system according to claim 1, including  
a browser application for providing a user interface display permitting  
user entry of identification information and for providing user identification  
information to said first application wherein

5           said first application authenticates said user identification information  
prior to permitting user access to functions of said first application.

7. A system according to claim 1, wherein  
said URL processor compresses said URL link address portion and  
10       encrypts a compressed URL link address portion.

8. A system according to claim 7, wherein  
said URL processor compresses said URL link address portion using a  
hash function.

15           9. A system according to claim 7, wherein  
said communication processor communicates said URL link address  
portion to a managing application for compression.

20           10. A system according to claim 1, wherein  
said URL processor adaptively generates URL fields including an  
encrypted URL address portion and a non-encrypted session identifier; and

25           11. A system for encoding URL link data for use in detecting  
unauthorized URL modification occurring during concurrent operation of a plurality  
of applications, comprising:

          a managing application for providing a common encryption key to a  
plurality of concurrently operating applications; and

          a first application including,

30           an input processor for receiving said encryption key;

          a URL processor for processing a URL link to a second  
application using said received encryption key by identifying URL type and  
adaptively encrypting a URL link address portion based on said identified type to  
produce a processed URL; and

35           a communication processor for including said processed URL  
in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative  
data including said processed URL to a requesting application.

12. A system according to claim 11, wherein  
said communication processor communicates said URL link address  
portion to said managing application for encryption.

13. A system according to claim 11, wherein  
said URL processor compresses said URL link address portion and  
encrypts a compressed URL link address portion.

14. A system according to claim 13, wherein  
said URL processor compresses said URL link address portion using a  
hash function.

15. A system according to claim 13, wherein  
said communication processor communicates said URL link address  
portion to said managing application for compression.

16. A system for encoding URL link data for use in detecting  
unauthorized URL modification, comprising:

a browser application for providing a user interface display permitting  
user entry of identification information for providing user identification information  
to a first application;

a first application responsive to said user identification information  
including,

a URL processor for adaptively generating URL fields  
including an encrypted URL address portion for incorporation together with a non-  
encrypted portion in a processed URL; and

a communication processor for including said processed URL  
in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative  
data including said processed URL to a requesting application.

17. A system according to claim 16, wherein  
said communication processor communicates said URL address  
portion to another application for encryption.

18. A system for processing URL link data for detecting unauthorized URL modification and suitable for use by a plurality of concurrently operating applications, comprising:

a first application including,

5 a URL processor for adaptively generating a URL link to a second application differently to a URL link to a web page provided by said first application, to provide a generated URL; and

10 a communication processor for including said generated URL in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative data including said generated URL to a requesting application.

19. A system according to claim 18, wherein

said URL processor,

15 (a) generates a URL field including an encrypted URL address portion for incorporation together with a non-encrypted URL portion in said generated URL link to said second application, and

(b) provides a URL including a non-encrypted URL address portion in said generated URL link to said web page provided by said first application.

20 20. A system supporting concurrent operation of a plurality of Internet compatible applications, comprising:

a browser application including,

25 a display generator for providing a user interface display permitting user entry of identification information and commands for a plurality of Internet compatible applications and for providing user identification information to a first application;

a URL generator for adaptively generating a URL including URL fields incorporating an encrypted URL address portion and a non-encrypted session identifier; and

30 a processor for initiating communication of said generated URL to said first application in response to validation of said user identification information.

21. A method employed by a first application for encoding URL link data for use in detecting unauthorized URL modification in a system supporting concurrent operation of a plurality of applications, comprising the steps of:

5 receiving an encryption key;

processing a URL link to a second application using said received encryption key by identifying URL type and adaptively encrypting a URL link address portion based on said identified type to produce a processed URL; and

10 including said processed URL in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative data including said processed URL to a requesting application.

22. A method employed by a first application operating in a system supporting concurrent operation of a plurality of Internet compatible applications, said method comprising the steps of:

15 in response to a command from a request device to initiate a first application,

enabling user operability of said first application based upon validation of user identification information;

20 encrypting a link to a second application;

including said encrypted link in data representing a web page to be returned to said request device; and

25 communicating to said request device, said web page representative data including said encrypted link.

23. A method for encoding URL link data for use in detecting unauthorized URL modification in a system supporting concurrent operation of a plurality of applications, comprising the steps of:

30 providing a common encryption key to said plurality of concurrently operating applications; and

receiving said encryption key;

processing a URL link to a second application using said received encryption key by identifying URL type and adaptively encrypting a URL link address portion based on said identified type to produce a processed URL; and

35 including said processed URL in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative data including said processed URL to a requesting application.

24. A method for processing URL link data for use in detecting unauthorized URL modification in a system supporting concurrent operation of a plurality of applications, comprising the steps of:

5                    adaptively generating a URL link to a second application differently to a URL link to a web page provided by said first application, to provide a generated URL; and

10                   including said generated URL in data representing a web page and for communicating said web page representative data including said generated URL to a requesting application.

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